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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01
IGA-02 DHA-02 ACDA-07 IO-13 EUR-12 CU-02 FEAE-00
INT-05 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 SSM-03
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----------071633Z 057540 /46
R 07140Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2460
INFO AMEMBASSS TEL AVIV

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DEPT PLEASE PASS OAU COLLECTIVE AND ALL ARAB CAIITALS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR PORG OAU EG XF
SUBJECT: AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT

REF (A) CAIRO 3882 (B) CAIRO 3871

SUMMARY. FOR REFERRAL TO SUMMIT, MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE APPROVES POLITICAL DECLARATION CONTAINING FAMILIAR ATTACKS ON ISRAEL, SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA, AND ECONOMIC PAPER REFLECTING CAUTIOUS ARAB APPROACH TO AFRICAN ASSISTANCE. ZIONISM-RACISM REFERENCES STILL INDIRECT AS IS CRITICISM OF US. MODERATES SEEM HAVE UPPER HAND, BUT GIVEN NATURE OF FORUM, ATTACKS ON TRADITIONAL ENEMIES ARE PREVALENT. PUBLIC POLITICAL SQUABBLING MINIMAL. OPENING SESSION OF SUMMIT HAD NO SURPRISES UNLESS ARRIVAL OF IDI AMIN CAN BE SO CONSIDRED. END SUMMARY

1. CLOSING SESSION OF MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE, MARCH 6, "UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED" POLITICAL DECLARATION, WORKING PAPER ON ECONOMIC/
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FINANCIAL COOPERATION AND PAPER ON EXECUTIVE PROCEDURE FOR REFERRAL

SUMMIT.

2. ACCORDING PRESS REPORTS, FOREIGN MINISTERS AGREED THAT POLITICAL

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DECLARATION (WHICH LOCAL PRESS, REFLECTING ARAB LINE, PRESENTING
AS SINGLE MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENT OF CONFERENCE) SHOULD CONTAIN
FOLLOWING PROVISIONS:

--CONDEMNATION OF GEORGRAPHIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES INTRODUCED
BY ISRAEL IN OCCUPIED TERRITORISTS AND CALL ON ISRAEL TO DESIST
FROM SUCH MEASURES IN "ORDER CREATE FABORABLE CLIMATE FOR JUST
PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST"

--COMMITMENT OF BOTH SIDES TO REPUDIATION OF AGRESSION AND
ILLEGITIMACY OF OCCUIATION OR ANNEXATION OF TERRITORIES BY FORCE
AND SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES BY PEACEFUL MEANS:

--CONDEMNTATION OF MILITARY, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC
MANEUVERS "BY FORCES OF IMPERIALISM THROUGH RACIST REGIMES"
IN SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA AGAINST ANGOLA, BOTSWANA,
BASUTOLAND, MOZAMBIQUE AND ZAMBIA, SUCH ACTS BEING "INTENDED
TO SHAKE THE GOVERNMENTS OF THESE COUNTRIES AND UNDERMINE THEIR
ECONO
MIC
DEVELOPMENT";

--CONDEMNTATION OF SIMILAR ACTS BY ISRAEL AGAINST EGYPT,
SYRIA, JORDAN AND LEBANON, ALONG WITH RECOMMENDATION THAT ARAB
AND AFRICAN STATES INCREASE THEIR MATERIAL SUPPORT TO THESE
COUNTRIES;

--EFFORTS THROUGH ARAB LEAGUE AND OAU TO FIND MOST EFFECTIVE
METHODS OF INCREASING ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ISOLATION OF ISRAEL,
SOUTH AFRICAN AND RHOESIA SO LONG AS THEY "CONTINUE
INTRANSIGNELLY THEIR RACIST AND AGRESSIVE POLICIES;"

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--CONTINUATION OF COMPLETE BOYCOTT (AGAINST ABOVE COUNTRIES)
IN POLITICAL, DIPLOMATIC, CULTURAL, SPORTS AND ECONOMIC
FIELDS AND ESPECIALLY AN OIL EMBARGO;

--CONDMENTATION OF EMPLOYMENT OF MERCENARIES.

3. AS NOTED BEFORE (REF B) ZIONISM-RACISM THEME IS STILL PRESENT
BUT, IN OUR VIEW, NOT AS PRECISELY STATED AS IN PAST. THIS
SUGGESTS AT LEAST SOME DEGREE OF TRADE OFF BETWEEN ARAB
MODERATES AND RADICALS. GIVEN PROMINENCE ACCORDED PEACE PLANK
IN POLITICAL DECLARATION, MOREOVER, LOOKS TO US AS IF MODERATES
HAVE HAD UPPER HAND IN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS.
UNFORTUNATELY THIS KIND OF FORUM REQUIRES RITUAL DENOUNCEMENTS
OF TRADITIONAL ENEMIES.

4. POLITICAL SQUABBLING HAS, WITH EXCEPTION EGYPT-LIBYA,

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BEEN WELL CONTAINED. IN LATEST BOTH BETWEEN THESE TWO, FAHMY DECLEARED MARCH 6 THAT SUMMIT WOULD BE SUCESS WHETHER LIBYA ATTENDED OR NOT. HE HAD LAST WORD IN EXCHANGE WITH LIBYAN MINISTATE FOREIGN AFFAIRS, "WHO HAD TRIED TO SOW DIESSENSION" AMONG AFRICAN AND ARAB FONMINS BY ATTACKING EGYPTIAN DELEGATION FOR LEAKING SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS TO PRESS. LIBYAN SNEERED THAT "LOUDSPEAKERS AND TELEPHONES" SHOULD CONNECT CONFERENCE HALL TO
PRESS AND SAID HE THANKED GOD THAT QADHAFI NOT PARTICIPATING IN SUMMIT AND DOES NOT DEAL WITH "AGENT REGIMES."

5. ARAB 10 POINT ECONOMIC WORKING PAPER, PRESS REPORTS, "WON WELCOME AND APPROVAL OF AFRICANS." ASST, OAU SYG ONU QUOTED AS SAYING PAPER WOULD ENHANCE ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE OF BOTH AFRICAN AND ARAB WORLDS "AND HELP THEM CONFRONT IMPERIALIST CHALLENGES". PAPER PROVIDES FOR:

--INCREASE IN ARAB ASSISTANCE ON BILATERAL BASIS THROUGH NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDS (THERE SOME CONFUSION, IN PAST FEW DAYS PRESS REPORTS, OVER MODALITIES OF ASSISTANCE. OUR IMPRESSION IS
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THAT ARABS FAVORINGSOME SORT OF SYSTEM ALLOWING THEM MORE SAY OVER
SPECIFIC WAYS THEIR ASSISTANCE WOULD BE USED.):

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDEES

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--"CONSOLIDATION" OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES OF AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK OF ABIDJAN THROUGH LOANS ON BEST POSSIBLE TERMS;

--STRESSING NEED OF INCREASING ARAB-AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK RESOURCES AND STEPPING UP TRADE EXCHANGES;

--"COORDINATING" ARAB AID TO AFRICA AND ENCOURAGING ARAB INVESTMENT IN JOINT PROJECTS;

--POINTING OUT NEED FORK SYSTEM OF GUARANTEES FOR SUCH INVESMTNETS;

--AID FROM "FINANCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS" FOR FEASIBILITY STUDIES OF AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

6. CONFLICTING ARAB AND AFRICAN APPROACHES TO ASSISTANCE QUESTION NOT EVIDENT IN MARCH 7 REPORTS OF SBSTANTIVE DISCUSSONS.
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ABOVE OUTLINE OF ECONOMIC PAPER, HOWEVER, CLEARLY POINTS OUT INCEASING ARAB CONCERN THAT ASSISTANCE THEY PROVIDE MUST BE USED PRODUCTIVELY. THEY TAKING THIS LINE ON QUESTION OF AID TO ARAB BRETHEREN AND THERE NO REASONS TO EXPECT THEY WILL BE LESS FIRM

WITH AFRICANS.

7, ONLY SIGNIFCANT CHANGE IN ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS, PROBABLY AT AFRICAN BEHEST, WAS DECISION TO HOLD MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE EVERY 18 MONTHS RATHER THAN AT TWO YEAR INTERVALS.

8. ACCORDING TO PRESS, AGENDA FOR SUMMIT DISCUSSIONS INCLUDE FOUR DOUCMENTS TO BE SIGNED MARCH 9:

--POLITICAL DECLARATION;

--ARAB-AFRICAN COOPERATION PROGRAM DRAFTED BY APRIL 76 DAKAR CONFERENCE:

--ADMINISTRATIVE DOCUMENT AN ESTABLISHMENT OF ORGANIZATIONS

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(PRESUMABLY EXECUTIVE AGENCIES TO IMPLEMENT COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS);
--PAPER ON FINANCIAL ASPECTS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF DEVELOPMENT
FUNDS.

9. US HAS GENERALLY FARED WELL THUS FAR.
CRITICISM INEVITABLE, BUT IT HAS BEEN INDIRECT, SIGN PERHAPS,
THAT IDEOLOGUES ARE ON DEFENSIVE. JUDGING FROM OUTLINE OF
POLITICAL DECLARATION, MOST ATTACKS LIKELY TO COME AS
CONCESSIONS TO SOUTH AFRICAN "CONFRONTATION STATES".

10. PRESS STILL HAS ONLY PARTIAL LIST OF
PARTICIPANTS: 18 CHIEFS OF STATE, 5 PRIME MINISTERS AND
ONE FOREIGN MINISTER (AS HEAD OF DELEGATION SUMMIT).
LIBERATION GROUPS ARE FIVE: POPULAR MOVEMENT FOR LIBERATION
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OF DJIBOUTI, (ZIMBABWE) NATIONAL UNION FOR INDEPENDENCE;
AFRICAN POPULAR LEGAGUE FOR INDEPENDENCE; MOVEMENT FOR
LIBERATION OF DJIBOUTI PARTY AND SOMALI COAST LIBERATION
FRONT. AMONG STARS WE HAVE SEEN ON TV SCREEN ARE MUCH
BEMEDALLED IDI ADMIN AND UNSHAVEN ARAFAT.

11. PRESIDENT SADAT'S 35-MINUTE OPENING SPEECH TO SUMMIT MARCH 7
AM MAINLY GENERALITIES. HE HIGHLIGHTED ROLE OF EGYPT AS AFRICAN
AND ARAB STATE AND APPEALED FOR SETTING ASIDE OF DIFFERENCES OF
AFRICANS AND ARABS AND STESSSING OF SOLIDARITY BASED ON
GEOGRAPHICAL
SIMILARITY AND JOINT EXPERIECNE RATHER THAN ORIGIN OR RELGION.
SADAT WELCOMED DETENTE BETWEEN THE GREAT POWERS AS LONG AS IT
DID NOT THREATEN "OUR RIGHTS". HE SAID ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE
IS ESSENTIAL TO POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE FROM GREAT POWERS. SADAT
PRAISED DECISION OF FOREIGN MINISTERS ON ARAB-AFRICAN COOPERATION,
SOLIDARITY, INCREASED MATERIAL SUPPORT TO LIBERATION MOVEMENT:
(HE ANNOUNCED THAT EGYPT WAS IMMEDIATELY CONTRIBUTING ONE
MILLION DOLLARS TO OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE),; AND DECISION TO
INCREASE RESOURCES TO BE GIVEN TO AFRICAN STATES THROUGH ARAB
SPONSORED INSITUTIONS AND BILATERALLY. HE POINTED OUT THAT
ARAB AID TO AFRICA HAD INCREASED SCENEFOLD IN PAST THREE YEARS
AND SIAD THIS INCREASE WOULD CONTINUE. SADAT CLOSED WITH
SPECIAL PRAISE FOR UNANIMOUS SUPPORT OF AFRICAN LIBERATION
STRUGGELS AND AFRICAN SUPPORT FOR RESTORATION OF ARAB RIGHTS IN
PALESTINE AND OCCUPIED TERRITOREIS SINCE ISRAELI IS STANDING
AGAINST PEACE WITH USICE AND IS A THREAT TO THE SECURITY OF
ARABS AS WELL AS AFRICANS.

12.
THER ANONDYNE SPEECHES FOLLOWING BY MAURITIUS PRIMIN,
TUNISIAN PRIMIN AND OAU AND AL SSG'S. ONLY DIRECT MENTION OF
US WAS IN APPEAL BY MAURITIAN THAT NEW US ADMINISTRATION USE
ALL ITS INFLUENCE TO RECOVER LAND ILLEGALLY OCCUPIED BY ZIONIST

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REGIME, POSITING RENEWED TRADEGY AS ALTERNATIVE. SESSION
ADJOURNED AFTER TWO HOURS AND IS SCHEDULED RECONVENE IN
CAMERA AT 1500 ZULU.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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